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PATENT SPECIFICATION



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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

Improvements in and relating to Blocks, Tiles, Bricks and like Toy Building Units

We, PREMIO RUBBER COMPANY LIMITED, a British Company, of Petersfield, Hampshire, and ARNOLD LÆVY, a British Subject, of the Company's address, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention relates to blocks, tiles, bricks and like toy building units, and seeks to provide devices of this kind which can be removably interconnected with one another so that a structure can be built up to possess a considerable degree of rigidity; to this end, therefore, toy building blocks, tiles, bricks and like units according to the present invention are provided with a continuous channel in one face extending throughout the length, or maybe the width, of the unit, the face of the unit opposite the channelled face having one or more pegs adapted to fit in the channel or in holes in a co-operating unit. The pegs may be formed integrally with one or other of the interengaging units, or they may be removably received thereby.

It is contemplated that the channels may receive a length of rigid material; thus two channel units with the channels placed end to end so as to extend continuously may be interconnected by such a rigid insert in order to provide a means for building up a rigid girder, arch or like member.

In carrying the invention into effect according to a preferred form, which by way of example may be a building element which is virtually a scale model of a brick as regards general proportions, the brick is moulded from fairly tough rubber, and extending longitudinally from end to end of one face is a continuous channel. The face of the brick opposite the channel is provided with at least one peg, but in most cases two pegs, which are adapted to fit into the channel of an adjacent similar unit.

The pegs as above stated may be moulded integrally with the brick or they may be removably received within apertures formed therein, in which case the pegs may be of rubber similar in nature to the brick, or they may be of some other material. The channel is formed near the

mouth with an internally-directed and fairly sharply defined stop bead, the object of which stop bead is to co-operate with a fairly sharply defined enlarged head on a co-operating peg; thus, the head has to be positively snapped past the stop bead, and when once fully engaged has to be positively pulled out of the channel, and thus cannot readily be accidentally displaced therefrom. Where pegs are removably carried by a toy brick or like element, it is contemplated that the apertures within which the pegs are housed shall be similarly provided with a stop bead in order to hold the pegs securely.

Strips of rigid material, for example hard vulcanised rubber, may be provided in various lengths to be received within the continuous channels of bricks placed end to end, thereby serving to interconnect adjacent bricks and build them up into a unit rigid enough to act as a beam, girder, arch or like support.

Brick units such as have been described above will generally be sold in sets for erecting model buildings, and it is contemplated that certain of the bricks may have narrow slots or ridges extending across or along one or more faces, such slots or ridges being adapted to receive the co-operating edges of doors, windows, and maybe intermediate floors or like relatively thin members. For the purpose of securing such a brick in alternative positions when it is required to bring a particular face on to a particular side of a wall, foundation or like structure, alternative interconnecting means may be provided, such as pegs or holes for engagement with co-operating members of an adjacent unit. Further, in some cases certain of the bricks may be provided at their ends with pegs, or holes to be engaged by pegs, so that an end of a brick may be connected to an adjacent unit.

Dated the 21st day of February, 1938.

For the Applicants,
F. J. CLEVELAND & COMPANY,
Chartered Patent Agents,
29, Southampton Buildings,
Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in and relating to Blocks, Tiles, Bricks and like Toy Building Units

We, PREMO RUBBER COMPANY LIMITED, a British Company, of Petersfield, Hampshire, and ARNOLD LEVY, a British Subject, of the Company's address, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

10 This invention relates to blocks, tiles, bricks and like toy building units, and seeks to provide devices of this kind which can be removably interconnected with one another so that a structure can be built up to possess a considerable degree of rigidity; to this end, therefore, toy building blocks, tiles, bricks and like units according to the present invention are provided with a continuous channel in one 20 face extending throughout the length, or maybe the width, of the unit, while another face of the unit has one or more pegs or means for receiving pegs, adapted to fit in the channel or in holes in a co-operating unit. The pegs may be 25 formed integrally with one or other of the interengaging units, or they may be removably received thereby.

It is contemplated that the channels may 30 receive a length of rigid material; thus two channel units with the channels placed end to end so as to extend continuously may be interconnected by such a rigid insert in order to provide a means for 35 building up a rigid girder, arch or like member.

In order that it may be clearly understood and more readily carried into effect, the invention is hereinafter described with 40 reference to the accompanying diagrammatic drawings, of which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a toy building brick according to the invention; while

45 Figure 2 is an end elevation corresponding with Figure 1, but also showing in broken lines how another similar brick may be secured within the channel;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a brick 50 as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

As shown in the drawings, the toy building element is virtually a scale model of a real brick as regards general proportions, and is moulded from fairly tough 55 rubber. The body of the brick is indicated by the reference numeral 4, and extending longitudinally from end to end of the lower face 5 is a channel 6 (see

Figures 2 and 3). The upper face of the brick is provided with one or more pegs 60 (generally 2) as indicated by the reference numeral 7. Each of the pegs 7 preferably has a reduced central portion 8, on one side of which is the base flange 9 of the peg, whereas the enlarged head 10 with 65 the somewhat tapered nose part 11 lies at the outer end of the reduced portion 8. The channel 6 has, extending longitudinally along each of its opposed walls, a rib 12, serving as a stop bead. The object of 70 the stop bead is to co-operate with the reduced portion 8 of a peg so that the head has to be positively snapped past the stop bead to be engaged in the channel, but when once fully engaged has to be positively 75 pulled out of the channel and thus cannot readily be accidentally displaced therefrom.

The pegs 7 may be either formed integrally with the body portion 4 or they may 80 be separate therefrom, and in cases where the pegs are removably carried in the body, it is contemplated that the apertures within which they are received shall be provided with a stop bead, so that the 85 engagement of the pegs with their receiving apertures is similar to the arrangement described with reference to the interengagement of the pegs with the 90 channels 6.

Although generally it will be convenient to provide the channel 6 in the lower face 5 of the body part 4 and the pegs in the upper face thereof, there is of course no real reason why the parts 5 and 7 should 95 not be arranged in some other desired relationship.

It is contemplated that strips of rigid material such as hard vulcanised rubber may be provided in various lengths to be 100 received within the continuous channels of bricks according to the invention placed end to end, the strips of rigid material thereby serving to interconnect adjacent bricks so as to provide a unit rigid enough 105 to act as a beam, girder, arch or like support.

Brick units as hereinbefore described generally will be sold in sets for erecting model buildings, and it is contemplated 110 that certain bricks may have narrow slots or ridges extending across or along one or more faces, such slots or ridges being adapted to receive the co-operating edges of doors, windows, and maybe intermediate floors or like relatively thin mem- 115

bers. For the purpose of securing such a brick in alternative positions when it is required to bring a particular face on to a particular side of a wall, foundation or like structure, alternative interconnecting means may be provided, such as pegs or holes for engagement with co-operating members of an adjacent unit. Further, in some cases certain of the bricks may be provided at their ends with pegs, or holes to be engaged by pegs, so that an end of a brick may be connected to an adjacent unit.

Where the building units are formed from a rubber, it will generally be convenient to form the pegs 7 integrally with the body part 4, but in some cases the pegs may be formed of different material from that of the body part.

In some cases channels may extend both along and across one face of a brick, one or more transverse channels being arranged to intersect one or more longitudinal channels substantially at right-angles, while furthermore, one or more channels or maybe even intersecting channels may be provided in more than one face of the bricks.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of our said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, we declare that what we claim is:—

1. A toy building block, tile, brick or like unit, formed with a continuous chan-

nel in one face extending throughout the length or width of the unit, while another face of the unit is provided with a peg or pegs or with means for receiving such peg or pegs, the peg or pegs being adapted to fit in the channel or holes of a co-operating building unit.

2. A building unit as set forth in Claim 1, in the form of a brick and in which the channel extends throughout the length of that face of the unit which is opposite the face which carries or receives the peg or pegs of the brick.

3. A toy building unit as set forth in either of the preceding claims, having narrow slots or ridges extending across or along one or more faces, for receiving an edge of a member such as a door, window or intermediate floor.

4. The improved building unit substantially as described with reference to the accompanying diagrammatic drawings.

Dated this 15th day of December, 1938.

For the Applicants,

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Reference has been directed, in pursuance of Section 7, Sub-section (4), of the Patents and Designs Acts, 1907 to 1938, to Specifications Numbered 1991 of 1915 and 19364 or 1912.

[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

